



November 1st, 2020

Iain Gardner, Principal | Tel 604.792.1416 | iain_gardner@sd33.bc.ca | http://cheam.sd33.bc.ca

Remembrance Day

Remembrance Day marks the official end of hostilities of World War I on November 11th, 1918. World War I was a massive conflict and was played out over the whole globe, but particularly in Europe, where troops from Canada supported the Allied forces. World War I resulted in the loss of huge numbers of lives amongst both civilians and military personnel. The war left great emotional scars in the servicemen who had experienced it, and in the communities who lost so many loved ones. Remembrance Day commemorates those brave men and women who died in armed conflicts, in and since World War I. The District will be hosting a virtual ceremony to commemorate Remembrance Day on Tuesday, November 10th. Further, Sunday, November 8th is [National Aboriginal Veterans Day](#), a day of remembrance and commemoration of the contributions of Indigenous veterans. Please note that schools are closed on November 11th.



Specific COVID-19 related information will be regularly updated on our school website, via email and also on our district website. Information gleaned through other media platforms is likely only partially accurate, and may be taken out of context for our situation in Chilliwack schools. The concerns around COVID-19 exposure are significant enough without adding to the stress through misinformation and rumours. As soon as the School District has accurate, reliable information to communicate, this will happen in a timely manner.

Daily Health Check

There has been discussion through mainstream media in recent weeks about possible changes to the daily health check expectations. To date, our District continues to adhere to the original health check form provided by the BC Centre for Disease Control. We kindly remind you to complete the daily health check for your child. If in doubt, consult your family doctor or call 8-1-1 for advice. Parents, please continue to wear a mask while you are waiting around the parking lot to pick up your child. As adults, we need to maintain our social-distance from each other, and our students. If this cannot be maintained at all times, masks must be worn to protect each other, and the children. We cannot afford to become complacent.

New Bell Schedule

- 7:59 Supervision Begins
- 8:09 Warning Bell
- 8:14 Classes in session
- 10:00-10:15 Recess #1
- 10:15-10:30 Recess #2
- 11:45-12:30 Lunch #1
- 12:30-1:15 Lunch #2
- 2:14 Dismissal
- 2:14-2:29 Supervision after school

Bullying Awareness Week, Nov.15-21

One component of our broader *Positive Behaviour Systems* is our teaching about bullying. We will pay particular attention to this theme over the course of the week. For more details, visit <http://www.bullyingawarenessweek.org>



Staffing Update

I would like to welcome Mrs. Georgia Palmer to our staff. Mrs. Palmer is our new Teacher-Librarian and Learning-Assistance Teacher.

Allergy Aware: Medical Alert

In an attempt to make Cheam a safer place for all of our students, we respectfully ask that you be 'allergy aware'. We have several students with potentially life-threatening allergies to a variety of food products. Please pay very close attention to communications coming home from your child's classroom teacher for specifics that might impact your food choices. Thank you for your support and continued vigilance.

Labeling Clothing

Please label all your children's clothing (jackets, shoes, gym strip, etc.). It is amazing what can get lost at school! In order to eliminate lost clothing, please put your child's name on the label of their personal items.

Parking Lot

There are a few key safety points I'd like to draw to your attention. **1. Please do not ever stop to drop-off or pick-up your child at the rainbow crosswalk.** Drive in and park, or pull all the way through to the crosswalk at the far end. Congestion around the entrance is challenging enough without this added variable. **2. Do not use the bus lane unless directed by staff.** You may have noticed that some drivers will be directed to use the bus lane at times, but this is reserved for moments when traffic is backing up and causing a jam at the entrance. Many students are walking alongside the portables to get where they need to go, and that yellow paint won't protect them from a vehicle. This area needs to remain clear as much as possible. **3. If you are directed to enter the bus lane, remain in the centre of the lane.** The yellow paint does swing out wide, making it seem like you should pull over. However, that caution line is there for the buses that require the additional space to make the turn safely. Cars that pull over to the right are compromising the safe walking space for children and are creating a situation where others will try to pass. This is highly dangerous and should never happen. Please review our [Parking Lot Safety](#) video.

Communication

If you want to know what's going on at school, our website is an excellent place to begin. Visit <http://cheam.sd33.bc.ca/>. Key areas to focus on are the *Home* page, the *Calendar*, and *News and Events*. The site will be updated regularly. We will also send out periodic reminders via our email system: sysadmin@myeducation.gov.bc.ca.

Winter is Coming

While the weather these past few days has been pretty decent, there is no doubt winter is coming. Please ensure that your children are dressed appropriately for the cooler, wetter weather. It is important for children to get fresh air and exercise during their day, so we need students to have the proper coats, hats, boots, etc. to enjoy themselves during their recess and lunch breaks.

Inclement Weather Guidelines

Inclement weather conditions such as freezing rain, significant snowfall or high wind can occur during the fall and winter months. In such conditions, decisions on the opening or closure of school district facilities are made by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with management and supervisory staff who have checked first-hand on the driving conditions and general condition of buildings.

While service to students and parents is a priority and schools will be kept open as much as is reasonably possible, student and staff safety is the primary consideration. In the event of extreme weather conditions, parents are urged to check the School District website (www.sd33.bc.ca) or tune into radio stations STAR FM (98.3 FM) and THE DRIVE (89.5 FM), to receive up-to-date information on school closures and information on the buses.

Reports will start after 6:00 a.m. and will be repeated often. The information broadcast is directly from the School District. The reports are confirmed and there is no need to call the school, the School District Office or the radio station.

In the event that there is inclement weather but the school remains open, it is the parent's decision, based on their assessment of the relative safety of travel conditions, as to whether or not their children attend school.

This is a snapshot of events on the horizon. Please keep your eyes on the website for details and updates.

Important Dates in Nov./Dec.

- Nov 8: Indigenous Veterans Day
- Nov 10: District Virtual Remembrance Assembly
- Nov 11: Remembrance Day (no school)
- Nov 15-21: Bullying Awareness Week
- Nov 16: Non-Instructional Day (no school)
- Nov 23: Student Photos and PAC Meeting
- Nov 27: Pro-D Day (no school)
- Dec 11: Term One Reports
- Dec 18: Last Day of 2020

PAC Meeting

Our next PAC meeting is Monday, November 23rd at 7:30 pm in the gym. Tables and chairs will be set up to promote social-distancing. School COVID-19 protocols will be in effect, i.e. sign-in, health check, sanitize hands, be prepared to wear mask.



Chilliwack
School District

Student Daily Health Check

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____
 Date: _____ School: _____
 Parent/Guardian: _____

1. Symptoms of Illness*	Does your child have any of the following symptoms?	CIRCLE ONE	
		YES	NO
	Fever	YES	NO
	Chills	YES	NO
	Cough or worsening of chronic cough	YES	NO
	Shortness of breath	YES	NO
	Sore throat	YES	NO
	Runny nose / stuffy nose	YES	NO
	Loss of sense of smell or taste	YES	NO
	Headache	YES	NO
	Fatigue	YES	NO
	Diarrhea	YES	NO
	Loss of appetite	YES	NO
	Nausea and vomiting	YES	NO
	Muscle aches	YES	NO
	Conjunctivitis (pink eye)	YES	NO
	Dizziness, confusion	YES	NO
	Abdominal pain	YES	NO
	Skin rashes or discoloration of fingers or toes	YES	NO
2. International Travel	Have you or anyone in your household returned from travel outside Canada in the last 14 days?	YES	NO
3. Confirmed Contact	Are you or is anyone in your household a confirmed contact of a person confirmed to have COVID-19?	YES	NO

If your child answered “YES” to any of the questions and the symptoms are not related to a pre-existing condition (e.g. allergies) they should **NOT** come into school. Notify the school office of the absence and if you are experiencing any symptoms of illness, contact a health-care provider for further assessment. This includes 8- 1-1, or a primary care provider like a physician or nurse practitioner.

If you answered “YES” to questions 2 or 3, use the [COVID-19 Self-Assessment Tool](#) to determine if you should be tested for COVID-19.